

HALF A LAW.

Bill Reorganizing Akron's Government Passed House.

Expected That It Will Also Have Clear Sailing In the Senate.

(Special Correspondence.)
Columbus, O., March 27.—The Representatives of Summit and Mahoning counties held a meeting at noon Wednesday and decided to push the new government bill for Youngstown and Akron to an immediate passage. Mr. Seese reported the bill back from the special committee and asked that it be read and engrossed at once which was done. The bill was passed in the House and no opposition has developed in the Senate.

The new bill gives these two cities a board of two Commissioners, who are to be of different political parties and to be appointed by the Mayor. The Probate court has nothing to do with their selection. The salary is fixed at \$1,800 per annum.

DEATH CHAIR WAITS FOR LAWYER PATRICK.

He Stands Convicted of Murdering Aged Millionaire Rice of New York.

New York, March 27.—Albert T. Patrick, lawyer, was last evening convicted of the murder on Sept. 23, 1900, of the aged millionaire reclus, William Marsh Rice. The penalty under the statute is death in the electric chair. A scant three hours of deliberation at the close of a trial prolonged for nine weeks and replete with sensational interest sufficed to enable the jury to reach their verdict. The issue of the trial establishes the charge that Patrick conspired with Rice's valet, Charles F. Jones, to obtain possession of the aged Texan's estate, estimated at \$7,000,000, and that Jones killed his employer by the administration of chloroform at the direct instigation of Patrick.

In anticipation of a scene of excitement in the event of a verdict of guilty, the unusual step was taken of ordering all women to leave the court room. Among them were the prisoner's two sisters and Mrs. Francis, with whom he boarded.

Calm as ever, and with confidence seemingly unshaken, the prisoner was escorted into the court room. He walked rapidly and took his stand facing the jury with head erect and hands loosely clasped behind his back.

At the word "guilty" pronounced by Foreman MacNeill in a tone low but distinct enough to be heard throughout the court, not the slightest change passed over Patrick's face and he remained standing in an almost listless attitude while the customary roll of the jury was being taken. His aged father, Capt. Patrick, sitting near him, and straining to catch the statement of the foreman, started for an instant, as its import reached him and then sat calmly awaiting further proceedings.

A smile of triumph lit up the face of Assistant District Attorney Osborne,

Yard Crew Found Mangled Body of an Unknown

About 5 o'clock Thursday morning, a C. A. & C. yard crew found the body of an unknown man lying beside the tracks at the Buchtel ave. crossing. The man was undoubtedly struck by a B. & O. or C. A. & C. train some time during the night. His right arm was broken and the right side of his body was crushed. No other bruises were visible. Nothing was found on the fellow's clothing except a postal card addressed to Mr. C. Carline, 226 Duff st., Pittsburg. The card was from the secretary of a Pittsburg Board of Elections. The initials "C. C." and a star and an anchor are tattooed on the man's right forearm. He appeared to be about 40, of medium height and stature, had light brown hair, was smooth shaven, and was fairly well dressed.

The body is now in Parks' morgue, awaiting identification.

Emperor Washed the Feet of Aged Men

Vienna, March 27.—Emperor Francis Josef, this morning (Maundy Thursday), performed at the Hofburg, the traditional ceremony of washing the feet of twelve aged men. The nobility and the diplomatic corps, including the United States minister, Robert S. McCormick, Chandler Hale, the secretary of the United States legation, Captain Floy W. Harris, the military attaché, and Mrs. Harris, witnessed the ceremony, after which his majesty hung bags of money on the necks of the participants whose aggregate age was 1,070 years. The old men wore ancient Dutch costumes. The ages of twelve maundy recipients of the imperial Maundy gifts aggregated 1,182 years.

An Akron Pastor Helped Defeat Sunday Ball Project

Rev. Dr. Milton B. Pratt, pastor of the First M. E. church, returned Wednesday from Columbus where he had been with others working against a clause in the bill of Representative Kinney amending the Sunday law so that city authorities could say whether or not base ball could be played within their corporations on Sunday. The amendment was not put in words so plain as the above, but the intent was

MONUMENT

To McKinley Will be Built at Buffalo.

Albany, N. Y., March 27.—The Assembly today passed the bill appropriating \$100,000 for the erection of a monument to the late President McKinley at Buffalo. The bill passed the Senate yesterday and now goes to the Governor, who will approve it as he sent a message to the Legislature yesterday urging its passage.

AS NOW

Congressional District Will Remain.

Legislature Agrees to Make No Change.

Vexing Problem Is Disposed of at Last.

(Special Correspondence.)
Columbus, O., March 27.—The redistricting proposition has at last been disposed of by the Republican caucus and the Patterson bill came out with colors flying, and with the endorsement of the Republicans of the House. The Congressional districts of the State will remain just as they have been for the past ten years.

The matter was kept at the boiling point all of Wednesday and Wednesday evening. In the afternoon a meeting of the Federal Relations committee was called and the matter gone over thoroughly. The Republican members tied on a vote on the Patterson bill, but the Democrats voted for supporting the bill and this made the committee stand four to six for the bill. Mr. Chapman, of Montgomery, seconded the motion to recommend the bill for passage and then voted against it.

The original motion in the caucus Wednesday evening was to support the Senate bill. The first amendment offered was by Dr. Cain, of the Morgan-Noble district, to take Fairfield away from the Twelfth. The arguments on this motion were long and warm. The vote was finally taken and resulted in 44 for and 17 against the proposition.

This "routed the enemy" and there appeared to be trouble. Mr. Guerin of Erie, claimed that he had pledged enough votes to place his county in a Republican district, the Fourteenth, if any changes were made, and his district was taken up next on motion by Mr. Allen, of Fulton. This proposition met the same fate. Then came other amendments proposed and finally the Third. Mr. Chapman moved that Warren be added to the Third, but the motion went down with the others. When the original question was reached, the vote stood 44 to 18 for the bill and the agony was over.

GOOD JOB FOR THIELEN

Nicholas Thielen has been appointed by the City Commissioners as inspector of the work on the retaining wall to be built for the Cherry st. bridge. He will receive \$3 a day, and the job will amount to about \$200.

The First Statue Of The Late President McKinley.

The first statue to the late President McKinley has been delivered in the plaster to the foundry of the Gorham Company at Providence, R. I., where



great preparations for the event. One of the gunboats stationed on the lakes is to participate in the ceremonies to give official recognition of the event from the United States government. Muskegon is thus honored through the generosity of one of her leading citizens, Charles H. Hackley, who gave the commission for the statue within two weeks after the death of the late President.

GRIEVED

Because He Had Done No More.

Cecil Rhodes' Great Ambitions Unsatisfied.

"Blessed Be the Name of the Lord," Said Kruger.

Cape Town, March 27.—The preparation for the State funeral of Cecil Rhodes, which will take place here April 2, are already in progress. Flags are half-masted everywhere.

Those who attended the sick bed say Mr. Rhodes continually sorrowed over the fact that he left so much unaccomplished. "So little done, so much to do," was an expression which he used more than once.

During Mr. Rhodes' illness all kinds of novel means were utilized to counteract the trying heat. Boxes of ice were let into the roof of the sea-side cottage, at Mulzenberg, where he died yesterday. Punks were continually kept in motion and extra windows were in the walls.

New York, March 27.—The Amsterdam correspondent for the Daily Press-Telegraph, says a London dispatch to the Herald, that on the news of Cecil Rhodes' death being conveyed to him, Paul Kruger said:

"The Lord giveth, the Lord taketh away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

New York, March 27.—There is a report, says the World's London correspondent, that Cecil Rhodes left a political testament dealing with the war and the future of South Africa, but owing to its severe criticisms of the imperial government its publication will be delayed. Mr. Rhodes' idea, it is reported, was to throw on the shoulders of the imperial authorities the responsibility for the tragic failure of the war policy.

VARIETY

Of Things Before Legislators.

(Special Correspondence.)
Columbus, O., March 27.—Constitutional amendments, railroad mortgages, health insurance, municipal rippers and skunks furnished a more or less pleasing variety of subjects for the consideration of the House Wednesday afternoon.

There were long debates, sharp parliamentary tactics, eloquent speeches, bright rejoinders and humorous observations of the different matters before the House so that the session was at least an entertaining one both to the members and to the lobby.

The House and Senate each went on record as against the proposition to give the Governor of Ohio the power of veto. Mr. Godfrey introduced a resolution to submit an amendment to the people on this proposition and in the House, Mr. Price offered a resolution covering the same matter. The resolution was taken up by each branch at 3 o'clock and the proposition was defeated by decisive votes by both sides.

WANT TO VOTE?

Cannot Do So Unless You Are Registered.

Tomorrow and next day, Friday and Saturday, will be the only days for registration prior to the spring election, April 7. The booths will be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 4 to 9 p.m. All new voters in Akron and those who have moved since last registration must register.

SHIPPERS

Complain of Long Delays

Before Goods Sent Are Delivered.

Want Better Freight Service If Possible.

Akron manufacturers and shippers are complaining woefully among themselves of the difficulties they are having in securing the delivery of goods with anything like reasonable promptitude. In some cases merchandise and manufactured articles sent from Akron have been two or three weeks where as many days should have been ample time for the delivery.

Where the trouble lies is a problem answered thus far only by the general statement that both for cars and motive power the railroads are sadly handicapped. That the railway companies control the situation, however, is evident, for whatever their complaints, shippers are unwilling to talk for publication, and each is striving for himself to get for himself the best service possible. In a general way they are disposed to believe that some cities are faring better than Akron in the service the railroads afford, though they do not blame the local railway men for this.

Said one manufacturer: "The trouble has been not only annoying but a costly handicap in our business; but I believe the situation is improving. There is no town of its size on the map which gives the railroads so large a variety of good, profitable traffic and Akron should have the best service possible. We believe the Barber-ton, Akron & Eastern road is going to help matters by increasing facilities."

"WE HAVE

A Son, But He Has Forgotten Us."

The Sad Story of Most Forlorn Parents.

One of the most forlorn looking couples that ever came to Akron arrived from Cleveland, Wednesday evening. They were penniless and wanted to go to Canton, where they claim to have relatives who will look after them. The man was a cripple having his ankle and collar bone broken, and claims to have been unable to work for a year.

They were picked up while wandering about the streets by a kind-hearted Market st. grocer who provided them with a supper and bed. Thursday morning they were taken in charge by Poor Director Kendall, given a breakfast and sent on to Canton. They gave their names as Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford.

"Haven't you any children?" inquired Mr. Kendall.

"Yes, we have a son who is a soldier in the Philippines, but he has forgotten us," said the woman brokenly.

"The grocery keeper who took care of those poor people, Wednesday night," said Mr. Kendall to a Democrat reporter, Thursday, "is a man after my own heart, and I'd like to shake him by the hand and tell him what I think of him. He has the right kind of Christianity."

ROOSEVELT

May Have to Show How He Feels Toward Miles.

Washington, March 27.—The announcement by Gen. Hawley, chairman of the Senate military committee, that the committee will not resume consideration of the War department bill for the reorganization of the staff of the army, will probably force the administration to show its hand regarding its intentions toward Gen. Miles.

Mr. Hawley said that if Secretary Root insisted he would again take up the bill, but otherwise no attempt would be made to pass it.

THE WEATHER:
PARTLY CLOUDY TONIGHT;
SNOW-FRIDAY GENERALLY FAIR
AND COLDER.

VINDICATED.

"No Evidence," Said the Court, "to Support Charges"

Made Against Executors of Cornell Estate by Mrs. S. J. Ritchie.

In an opinion delivered by Probate Judge G. M. Anderson Thursday morning the executors of the will of the late T. W. Cornell were completely vindicated of the charges made against them by Mrs. Sophronia J. Ritchie. The Court further declared that all the affairs of the Cornell estate had been conducted in a manner beyond reproach.

This case has been in court for a long time, and on account of the sensational charges made by the plaintiff, has attracted more than an ordinary amount of interest.

The action was brought by Mrs. Ritchie to have the executors of Mr. Cornell's will removed. Of the three executors appointed, Attorney Chas. Baird is the only one now living. The others were Mr. J. B. Wright, whose death occurred only a few weeks ago, and Mr. Wm. McFarlin, who died in 1893. Mr. Cornell died in 1892, leaving an estate which amounted to \$3,000,000.

Mrs. Ritchie, who claimed an interest in the estate, charged in her petition against the executors that the will which was probated soon after Mr. Cornell's death was a forgery. She further accused the executors of conspiracy, alleging that \$5,000 had been paid to a man named Augst to get him to swear that he had witnessed Mr. Cornell's signing the will. She also accused mismanagement of the estate.

With reference to these charges, the Court said: "There is not one scintilla of evidence to support them." He stated that the will probated as that of Mr. Cornell was genuine, and that the executors had conducted the affairs of the estate in a straightforward manner. Relative to the charges of the plaintiff that the executors had unjustly retained property belonging to Mrs. Ritchie, the Court said that they had merely holding it in trust for her.

Judge Anderson also said that he did not wish to be unjust to the plaintiff to the extent of believing that the action had been commenced upon charges which the petitioner knew were groundless, but rather that he preferred to believe they existed in the mind of the plaintiff as the result of much brooding over fancied wrongs.

Ex-Mayor W. E. Young and Hon. N. D. Tibals were counsel for the plaintiff, and Attorney Virgil P. Kline, of Cleveland, and Gen. A. C. Voris and E. F. Voris, Esq., of this city, were counsel for the defense.

WAR IS ON AMONG MAKERS OF PAPER BAGS

Thomas Philips Co. Started a Big Fight For Increased Business.

A merry war is on among manufacturers of bag paper and paper bags, and the Thomas Philips Co. recently sent out a circular which caused consternation among its competitors. The result is that the Manufacturers' Association, while maintaining its organization, has agreed to run, every man for himself, for a time, at least, and there has been price cutting galore.

Some time ago the Thomas Philips Co., though a member of the association, sent out a circular announcing a revision of prices. It had been expected by the association that such a move would be made and the Akron concern violated no agreement when

it did so, but the others of the association could not stand the sight of so much business coming this way and the Root & McBride people of Cleveland, sent out a circular and traveling men to outbid the Thomas Philips Co.'s prices. Then the fun began and bag paper and paper bags have not sold at prices so low as now obtain for a long time. It is claimed that some of the companies are running at a loss to meet the sharp competition and the disruption of the association is feared by those who helped to organize it. The Akron Paper Co. at Boston is not, it is said, a member of the association, though it now makes paper bags as well as paper.

you, get out of here!" He used these words, he said, because he was angered at some of the young lady's remarks.

Daniel Crutsinger testified that he had seen Paret take Miss McDonald by the arm, point to the door, and tell Miss McDonald to get out, emphasizing the words with an oath.

Police Prosecutor Wells, Wednesday evening secured the wages of three chorus girls, which the manager of the Wilbur Co. had withheld pending the trial of Paret, and turned the money over to the women.

Director Paret denied positively, Thursday, Miss McDonald's statement in testifying Wednesday that he had attempted to pay attentions to her and she had rejected him. Further Paret said:

"Since Miss McDonald joined the Wilbur Opera Co., ten weeks ago, I have not spoken 10 words to her about personal matters of any description. Business reasons necessarily prevent me from seeking the friendship of any ladies of the chorus, and strong personal reasons, known to every member of the company, make such a charge coming from Miss McDonald appear extremely ridiculous. There is no trouble whatever between Miss Maude Daniels, proprietress of the Wilbur Opera Co., and myself about this or any other matter."

"In the Same Boat With Me," Said Mr. Weidner

Another phase of interest was added to the story concerning Frank Fogle, former clerk for Chas. Weidner, a well known merchant of South Main st., who is alleged to have skipped some time ago without paying his board bill, when it was rumored that Weidner's wife had also disappeared with Fogle. A Democrat reporter called on Mr. Weidner Thursday morning but was told that he could not be seen. His father, however, confirmed the story that Mrs. Weidner had disappeared, but could not exactly tell where.

Mrs. Fogle, who lives on Main st., a few doors above Weidner's store, seems to have been the most unfortunate individual concerned in the case. In March last she was given a divorce from her husband on the ground of non-support, and was also granted considerable alimony, which her former husband had failed to pay. The woman has two grown children and is having a hard battle to gain support.

"I know Mr. Weidner, well," said she yesterday. "I called on him Tuesday. His wife was not at home and when I asked for her he said he thought he was in the same boat with me. I think my husband is in Cleveland. He can't keep away from that place."

At the Weidner homestead, Mrs. Weidner is supposed to be in Canada. Mrs. Weidner has a large circle of acquaintances in Akron. She was Miss Nellie Smith, and resided with her parents in Springfield township, previous to her marriage.